

South King County Projects Update

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South King County traffic closures this week

Interstate 5, Federal Way to Tukwila

Monday through Thursday nights [I-5 will be reduced to a single lane](#) in each direction between S. 320th Street in Federal Way and the Pierce County line as crews make pavement improvements and shift lanes.

Sunday through Thursday nights expect [multiple nighttime lane closures northbound](#) between S. 200th Street in SeaTac and I-405 in Tukwila for restriping.

Expect nighttime ramp closures at the SR 18 interchange in Federal Way for bridge demolition (see below).

State Route 18, Federal Way

Monday through Thursday nights expect [extensive lane and ramp closures at the I-5 interchange](#) in Federal Way for bridge demolition.

State Route 99, Federal Way

Monday through Friday crews will [close the right lane in each direction](#) between S. 284th and S. 272nd streets to install temporary lighting and clear the shoulders.

State Route 167, Kent

Drivers should expect intermittent weekday closures of the Willis Street on-ramp to northbound SR 167 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. for pile driving. Detours will be in place.

State Route 516, Kent

Tuesday through Thursday nights crews will close the right lane in each direction near Military Road from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. for a city of Kent project.

State Route 599, Tukwila

Monday through Friday expect closures of the left lane in each direction of SR 599 at the East Marginal Way crossing except during rush hours for work in the median on [Sound Transit's light rail project](#).

Southbound I-5 bridge repaving in Federal Way delayed

If you drive on I-5 through Federal Way you probably noticed that crews recently completed paving the northbound bridges over SR 18 and S. 336th Street. We hope you're enjoying the smooth ride. We're using a relatively new paving material called polyester concrete. Polyester concrete hardens and strengthens much more quickly than traditional concrete, which allows crews to complete a lane of paving in one overnight closure. If crews paved with traditional concrete, drivers would encounter around-the-clock two-lane closures on I-5 lasting two to three weeks.

You may have also noticed that the southbound bridges over SR 18 and S. 336th Street remain unpaved and may wonder why the job remains unfinished. Originally, we expected to do this paving on both northbound and southbound I-5 in spring 2007. However, the paving subcontractor was asked to start work this summer so we could complete the project this year. A short two-week window became available in late July. Unfortunately, we encountered several problems:

- It usually doesn't rain in late July, but it did this year.
- The deck needed more repairs than initially expected.
- There was a problem with the concrete mixer.
- The paving machine broke down.

These delays affected the schedule of our paving subcontractor, which was committed to perform another paving project in another state. Since the subcontractor is one of only two on the West Coast that does polyester paving, we had to postpone the southbound bridge work.

We now expect to pave the southbound bridges in October, when our subcontractor is available again. In the meantime, we have placed six-foot-long asphalt wedges at each end of both bridges to ease the transition on and off the bridges. We apologize for the delay and ask for your patience until we can finish the job in October.

Public meeting on your transportation future tomorrow night

A quick reminder about the public meeting we told you about last week:

- Date: Wednesday, Aug. 23
- Time: 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Place: Seattle Public Library, Central Branch (1000 4th Ave., Seattle)

This is your chance to learn and comment in person about the updated [20-year Washington Transportation Plan](#).